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LET|TIERS

from Merchant Magazine - September 1991

by 526 Media Group

Stopping Stain

Many years ago I had the sale of the first studs ever made and shipped as such. Before that. the carpenters cut them out of longer lengths with a hand saw.

For this new idea, the mill was using second growth trees. Probably one ofthe first uses of second growth, as old growth was still plentiful. Before it reached Southern California on the old boats the sap part started turning black. I knew that the pine mills dipped their fresh cut lumber in a solution to stop stain. I suggested they put a spray behind the planer. They did and it worked.

Through the years, nearly all the sawmills sprayed green lumber to keep it bright.

It is my understanding that the practice has been abandoned in recent years because of possible trouble from the environmentalists. Anyway, green lumber is arriving here in large quantities and starting the first stage of rot. Right now the Los Angeles harbor is tull of it and it is beginning to turn black and will rot in a very short time, if not exposed to the air. If this is called to the attention of both the buyers and purchasers before it is too late, it may put some lawyers on hold.

Ed Fountain, Sr.

Ed Fountain Lumber Co.

6218 So. Hooper Ave.

Los Angeles, Ca. 90001

Anyone interested in discussing the problem is invited to contact Fountain at (2 l3) 583-l3lll or (714) 972-9107for his proposed solutioneditor.

Doug Fir Plantations

Like you, I have always been puzzled by the general public's apparent lailure to perceive the concept of tree farming and their acceptance of the environmental ayatollahs'allegations that it is an evil plot to conceal the lumber industry's foul conspiracy to cut down every tree in America and turn it into a scrofulous wasteland. That by doing so they would destroy their own livelihoods and those of their descendants evidently does not occur to the ecological true believers.

However, in seeking an alternative (see Tlrc Merclnnt Maga:ine, Junc p. 6) to the now pejorative "Tree Farm," I don't feel that substituting "A productive and healthy forest where trees are grown to produce lumber and paper products for millions of people" is going to catch on. lt lacks a certain snap. lt doesn't exactly roll offthe tongue.

A recent Smith & Hawken catalog piously contended that all their redwood trellis was salvaged from old wine vats, so they could not be accused ofdespoiling our once-mighty heritage. In the same issue they proudly pointed out that their garden furniture was made, not from teak from despoiled Asian forests, but from "Plantation Teak." In other words, teak from a teak tree farm! One of your advertisers promotes "Plantation Pine." from New Tealand radiata pine tree larms.

Apparently a tree plantation is classy, while a tree farm is a blight on the face of the earth. "Planting" is a positive, nurturing act; "farming" is cutting down, a negative act. n Planter is a nicer person than a Farmer, particularly if he has a Dutch or British accent.

So why can't we have redwood, pine, l)ouglas fir, spruce, hemlock, cedar plantations? I prefer the euphemism to your suggestions. I hope you're not oflended.

Stuart Williamson Winmark, Inc.

3213 W. Wheeler St. Seattle. Wa. 98199

September 1991

Oregon Strand Board Siding Saves Builder Time, Money

Oregon Strand Board lap siding has been chosen for the Evergreen Terrace Rowhomes under construction in Lake Oswego, Or.

Metropolitan Homes, the builder, also selected Oregon Strand Board's trim and vents for the upscale $1.4 million project.

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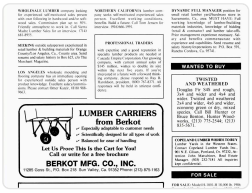

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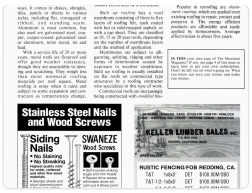

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